

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application No. 10/581,044

Applicant: TABATA et al.

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Examiner: K. Mayekar

Docket No.: 403723

Customer No.: 23548

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated October 9, 2009, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks. Applicants petition for a two-month extension of time, extending the deadline for response to and including February 9, 2010. The fee for the extension of time should be charged to Deposit Account 12-1216.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 8 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 12 of this paper.